

**MPC 099****Intermediate Algebra****Course Syllabus****Instructor:** Tyler Wallace**Office:** 1228**E-mail:** tylerw@bigbend.edu**Phone:** (509) 793-2154**Credits:** 5**Term:** Winter 2010**Class Mode:** Online**Course Website:** <http://bbccwallace.wikispaces.com>**Office Hours (in person or over internet):** Mon-Thur 1:00-2:05 or by appointment

**Course Description:** A continuation of MPC 095. This course includes systems of equations and applications, functions, radicals and rational exponents, radical equations, complex numbers, quadratic equations and their applications, and an introduction to exponential and logarithmic functions.

**Course Goals:**

- To present the fundamentals of algebra so that the student will be able to understand and use the basic concepts of algebra to solve the simpler mathematical problems encountered in consumer education.
- To prepare the student for more advanced work in mathematics, science, and business.
- To increase the students' ability to deal with abstract concepts.
- To teach the students to think in a logical manner.

**Prerequisite(s):** Appropriate scores in the BBCC Mathematics Assessment or successful completion of MPC 095 or MPC 091 and MPC 092

**Text:** *Intermediate Algebra* by Mark Dugopolski: 6<sup>th</sup> Edition

**Evaluation/Methods of Grading:** Your grade will be based on the following:

- 450 pts for each of 4 exams (110 pts each + 10 free point)
- 400 pts on the department competency exam (Final Class Period – NO EXCEPTIONS!).
- 90 pts for homework (3 pt each, 1 score dropped)  
60 pts for function quiz due March 17

Once totaled you will need a minimum of the following points to earn the following grades:

Pts	Gd		Pts	Gd		Pts	Gd		Pts	Gd		Pts	Gd		Pts	Gd
950	4.0		862	3.4		786	2.8		720	2.2		664	1.6		619	1.0
934	3.9		849	3.3		774	2.7		710	2.1		656	1.5		612	0.9
919	3.8		836	3.2		763	2.6		700	2.0		648	1.4		606	0.8
905	3.7		823	3.1		752	2.5		691	1.9		640	1.3		600	0.7
890	3.6		810	3.0		741	2.4		681	1.8		633	1.2		0	0.0
876	3.5		789	2.9		730	2.3		673	1.7		626	1.1			

**Late Work/Missing Work:** No late work will be accepted. Missing a test will result in a 0 grade unless arrangements are made and confirmed with your instructor IN ADVANCE!

**Pass/Fail Grades:** This only applies to students taking the course under the Pass/Fail grading option. It is the policy of the Mathematics and Science Division to assign a passing grade only if the earned grade for the course is 2.0 or better. This means 70% is required for a passing grade.

**Calculators:** Calculators are not needed for this course. However, on occasion, a calculator MAY be used. Often I make my test such that calculators are not allowed. You need to be sure you know how to do the math, not push some buttons. When you do use a calculator only the following calculators may be used in Big Bend MPC courses: TI30Xa, TI 30XIIs, Casio FX 260, or Casio FX 300. Any other calculator, no matter how similar (especially not a MultiView) is not permitted in this or any other MPC course.

**Virtual Office:** In order to be more accessible to students, during my office hour I am also available in a virtual office. The link for the virtual office can be found at <http://bbccwallace.wikispaces.com>. You may have to install some software the first time you log in. I can also arrange a special appointment if needed at any time. Microphones are available for checkout if you need one, though they are not needed.

**Recorded Videos of Class:** All lectures are recorded and stored at <http://bbccwallace.wikispaces.com>. To get to the videos you click MPC 099 and then select the video off the calendar you want to watch.

**Special Needs:** Any student who feels he or she may need a reasonable accommodation for any type of disability, please make an appointment to see me during my office hours. You will also want to contact Disability Services as soon as possible. The disability must be documented in order to receive accommodations.

**Cheating:** Don't cheat. Cheating will result in a 0.0 for the course. Complete honesty is required. It is the students' responsibility to avoid even the *appearance* of cheating.

**No Name:** Be sure to put your name on your paper. I will not give credit for no name papers.

#### **A note for online courses:**

#### **Requirements for Distance Education**

- A reliable E-mail account that is checked regularly, this is the E-mail you will use throughout the entire term. Do not change your E-mail mid-term.
- Access to Washington Online (<http://angel.bigbend.edu>). And the course site (<http://bbccwallace.wikispaces.com>)

#### **How the course will work:**

**Every day** you should be watching a video (last quarters are posted in advance, each day the old video will be replaced by a new video for this quarter) and doing a homework assignment off the calendar. These will be turned in in sets: Each Monday you will turn in the previous week's work. You can either turn them into the Math Lab, Slip them under my office door (1228), scan and E-mail them to me ([tylerw@bigbend.edu](mailto:tylerw@bigbend.edu)), fax them to the math lab with my name on the cover sheet (509.762.6372), or send them to me in the mail - postmarked by the due date (Att: Tyler Wallace, Big Bend Community College, 7662 Chanute Street NE, Moses Lake Wa 98837).

**Tests:** I will give you a 3 day window in which you can take each test (note – only one day/time for the final). The test must be taken in the math lab (1201) and be started at least an hour before the lab closes. Here is when you can take your tests:

Test 1: Jan 15, 9, 10

Test 2: Feb 1, 2, 3

Test 3: Feb 16, 17, 18

Test 4: Mar 3, 4, 5

Function Quiz: Mar 15, 16, 17

The final is to be taken on March 19 at 2:00pm. Please plan on making this time.

### **Expectations of Students**

- This is a 5 credit course. You are expected to spend 10-15 hours a week on the course.
- Online courses take more discipline on the part of the student. Students often feel that online courses are “easier” and procrastinate. Stay with the calendar. Do all the problems off the worksheets and assignments on the day they are assigned. If you have questions, contact your instructor immediately.
- Students are expected to watch all online videos that accompany each lesson. Links to the videos will be made available on this site under MPC 099.
- Tests will cover all assigned sections up to the test date, even if there has not yet been an assignment collected on the information. Be prepared.
- Students are expected to take each test on the assigned date and time at the designated location. For each test date you can take it either one day before or one day after the date on the calendar. All tests are to be taken in the Math Lab. If this is impossible alternate arrangements must be made and finalized with me at least a week in advance. The final date and time is not flexible. It must be taken as listed on the syllabus at Big Bend.
- If you cannot make the final date/time you **MUST** contact me during the first week of classes to make other arrangements. If you do not contact me during the first week of classes you are responsible to make any arrangements with work/childcare/travel/etc to be at the final on time.
- This is a 5 credit course. You are expected to spend 10-15 hours a week on the course.

### **Getting help in a distance education class**

If you need help you have several options available to you

- Stop by my office during my office hours or virtually access my office!
- Visit the Math Lab
- Use the free online tutoring services available through the Portal.